

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

# 11

Applicant: Timothy R. Ryan et al.

Examiner: William H. Matthews

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Group Art Unit: 3738

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Title: ANNULOPLASTY BAND AND METHOD

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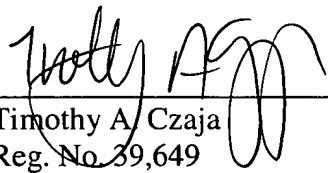
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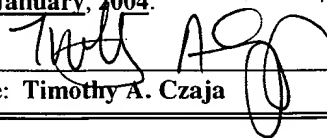
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Date: JANUARY 23, 2004  
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The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope, address to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2004.

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Name: Timothy A. Czaja